



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

REVIEWS

Rural Sanitary Administration in Pennsylvania. A paper read in abstract before the Annual Meeting of the Associated Health Authorities of Pennsylvania at Mechanicsburg. Extracted from the Seventeenth Annual Report of the State Board of Health. By WILLIAM H. ALLEN, Ph. D. Harrisburg: W. S. Ray, 1903.

The State of Vermont, with a small and almost exclusively rural population of 340,000, contributes to the work of state sanitary administration the sum of \$10,000 per year. The people of Pennsylvania, six millions in number, through their representatives, annually appropriate only \$6,000 for the use of their State Board of Health, an amount which represents a per capita expenditure only one-thirtieth as large as that of the Green Mountain State. Pennsylvania could well afford to furnish its State Board of Health with ten times that sum, for the purpose of enabling it to carry out a single inquiry—the investigation of the sanitary circumstances and conditions attendant upon the mining industry, and the best methods of improving such conditions as are found to exist among the miners. As much more should be provided to enable the State Board to perfect, and bring into active use, a thorough system of vital statistics throughout every village and hamlet of the state, thereby making its name of Board of Vital Statistics something more than a nominal title. For this purpose, no better example can be quoted than that of Michigan, where by the energetic action of one intelligent physician, the vital statistics of the state have been brought to a condition of perfection, surpassing in many points those of the older states. Massachusetts annually expends through its state board, for the protection of the purity of its inland waters alone, a sum nearly six times as great as that which Pennsylvania gives to its State Board of Health for all purposes. With such facts in view Dr. Allen has performed for the State of Pennsylvania a useful service such as was done in earlier years for England and Scotland by Chadwick and Simon, of London, and by Russell, of Glasgow.

Dr. Allen's able monograph may be commended not only to the careful attention of every member of the legislature of his state, but also to sanitarians generally throughout the country, since the defects which are so thoroughly exposed in this piece of scholarly criticism are not confined to Pennsylvania, but exist in a greater or less degree throughout the Union. These defects are not so much those of administration as of want of intelligent appreciation on the part of the people and consequently of neglect to provide adequate appropriations for carrying out the legitimate work of a sanitary board.

The following titles of chapters show the general character of the address:

1. The Evolution of Sanitary Science.
2. The Growth of Sanitary Administration in Pennsylvania.
3. Introduction of State Control.
4. Powers of the State Board of Health and Vital Statistics.
5. The Vital Statistics of Pennsylvania.
6. Practical Results of State Control.

After reviewing the history of general sanitation in past centuries, the local history of public health in Pennsylvania is taken up and the author presents a brief sketch of the growth of sanitary administration in the state from the days of William Penn down to the establishment of the State Board of Health in 1885, an event which resulted from the Plymouth epidemic of typhoid fever, where in a small town of 8,000 there were 1,100 cases and 114 deaths, all of which were due to the pollution of the public water supply.

In the third chapter each of the principal functions of a central sanitary authority is separately treated.

In the chapter relating to Vital Statistics the writer points out the proper remedies for perfecting the system of registration: (1) The establishment of health authorities in every town in the state; (2) the establishment of county experts in statistics; (3) the enlistment of the services, either by compulsion or compensation, of every physician, midwife, clergyman, magistrate or undertaker, who may officiate at births, marriages, deaths, burials or attend upon infectious cases; and lastly, the State Board should be given funds sufficient to execute existing laws where local authorities are incompetent.

To these items we would add that much importance may properly be attached to the existence of adequate legal penalties for neglect and refusal to comply with the provisions of such laws as may be enacted, as well as the placing of the enforcement of such laws in the hands of properly qualified magistrates.

The power to abate local nuisances appears to have been conferred upon the State Board of Health of Pennsylvania. This mistaken policy is shown in the fact that the State Board of Health in a single year abated 102 local nuisances. "It must be asserted, however, that the central authority was designed for higher purposes than local scavenging." "As at present acting, our state administration of the elaborate sanitary code has degenerated into mere nuisance abatement. Central control means here local irresponsibility. Our board is discharging the same executive functions as the town constable of the time of Queen Elizabeth."

Those portions of the monograph which relate to local questions are illustrated with several valuable tables, giving the population of different groups of towns, their death-rates, number of nuisances reported, salaries of health officials and facts relating to vaccination.

S. W. ABBOTT.

Massachusetts State Board of Health, Boston.

Human Nature and the Social Order. By CHARLES HORTON COOLEY. Pp. viii, 413. Price, \$1.50. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

In "Human Nature and the Social Order" Professor Cooley aims to set forth "what the individual is considered as a member of a social whole." Current social theory is wrong in its treatment of the individual for a "separate individual is an abstraction unknown to experience and 'society' and 'individual' do not denote separable phenomena, but are collective and